PATENT Docket No. 297912001911

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, pp. January 16, 2003.

Linda J. Burleigh

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

EDWIN

Serial No.: 09/858,035

Filing Date: May 15, 2001

For: EXTERNALLY SUPPORTED GRAFT

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3738

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

These references were discovered upon a comparison with those references filed in an application with similar subject matter.

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I hereby certify that no item of information was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 297912001911. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: January 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

Todd W. Wight

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